

# CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Supplement to

## THE WORLD TODAY

Published twice a month by the Royal Institute of International  
Affairs, Chatham House, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1

Annual subscription 12s. 6d. Per copy 6d.

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Volume 1. No. 6 ( <i>New Series</i> )	September 10—23, 1945
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ARGENTINA. *Sept. 15.*—The Vice-President (Col. Peron) issued an order as Minister of War warning all military officers of civilian attempts to overthrow the Government by dividing the Army.

*Sept. 18.*—The Vice-President, broadcasting to the workers, denounced a demonstration arranged for the following day as a manoeuvre by an economic and political oligarchy to deprive them of their rights.

*Sept. 19.*—A crowd estimated at 500,000 people made a protest march through Buenos Ayres distributing leaflets declaring that "we must immediately get rid of dictatorship . . . we want, we need, we demand that the Constitution be observed and that liberty reign . . ." The march was strongly supported by leading industrial, commercial, and stock-breeding organizations.

The transport workers of the capital held a 24-hour strike, aimed, it was reported, at sabotaging the march.

AUSTRALIA. *Sept. 10.*—Report on Japanese atrocities. (*see Great Britain.*)

*Sept. 14.*—Dr. Evatt's statement regarding the Council of Foreign Ministers. (*see page 146.*)

AUSTRIA. *Sept. 11.*—The Allied Council held its first meeting.

*Sept. 13.*—The Provisional Government issued a statement that the Allies could be assured that "all Austrians will honestly and unselfishly carry out their national duty towards the renascent Austrian democratic State".

The Government were reported to have received requests from the Soviet Government for the cession for 50 years of the Zistersdorf oil production of 1 million tons without any consideration, on the ground that the machinery of the oil fields was legitimate booty of war.

*Sept. 14.*—The Government were understood to have asked the Soviet Government to postpone for an indefinite period the negotiations about the oilfields.

*Sept. 20.*—The Allied Control Council approved a proposal by Dr. Renner to convene a *Länder* conference on Sept. 24. Agreement was also reached on measures to facilitate essential travel, to restore postal services, and to secure as much coal as possible for the winter.

**BULGARIA.** *Sept. 16.*—The Foreign Minister told the official news agency that the United Nations Council of Foreign Ministers could only resolve questions relating to Balkan countries in a just and adequate manner if Bulgarian representatives were able to state their case.

**BURMA.** *Sept. 13.*—Gen. Ichida signed the instrument of the surrender of Burma to Gen. Armstrong, Chief of Staff to the British 12th Army.

*Sept. 21.*—The Secretary of State for War arrived in Rangoon.

**CHILE.** *Sept. 21.*—The Cabinet resigned.

**CHINA.** *Sept. 17.*—The Minister of War, in a statement, said, "Shanghai is now completely under Chinese sovereignty, and no one, regardless of nationality, is to observe any law other than that of this country. No one is to have any privilege whatsoever."

The Government began to restore foreign property in Shanghai to its former owners.

*Sept. 18.*—The Commander of the Chinese field forces stated that every Japanese man, woman, and child would be deported to Japan. (Very large numbers of civilians had settled in eastern and northern China as colonizers in the wake of the armies.)

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA.** *Sept. 10.*—Dr. Zenkl, Mayor of Prague and chairman of the Socialist Party denied rumours that Czechoslovakia intended voluntarily to seek membership of another State. "We are all against a protectorate", he said, "and we must do everything to prevent its returning in any other form." Speaking of freedom of speech, he said that although the country had a newspaper called *Free Word* there was nevertheless no freedom of public opinion. He paid tribute to the U.S.S.R., adding: "We must also be grateful to the West. We have no right to shift the centre of Europe towards west or east."

*Sept. 15.*—The Foreign Under-Secretary, addressing the Slovak National Council, said there was a conflict of opinion with Poland over Teschen, and also over the former German frontier, "where Poland has taken over the administration of districts we have claimed as ours by right for historical, transport, economic, and ethnical reasons" (i.e. those parts of Silesia round the upper Neisse which were formerly in the Kingdom of Bohemia).

He repudiated the suggestion that Czechoslovakia was a satellite of Russia, saying, "our alliance with the Soviet Union safeguards our national independence, liberty, and sovereignty, and enables us to develop our international relations with all the democratic States of the

world. Our relations with Britain, the United States, and France are very good. . . ."

*Sept. 21.*—F.-M. Montgomery arrived in Prague.

**DENMARK.** *Sept. 18.*—The Foreign Minister, in a statement regarding the reports about the formation of a *bloc* of Western Powers said, "in my view Denmark's place is inside the framework of the United Nations and neither Denmark nor any other northern country ought to enter into regional agreements. Denmark, as well as the other northern countries, must try to have the same good relations with the east as with the west".

**EGYPT.** *Sept. 23.*—A committee of elder statesmen issued a statement that it "unanimously considers that the national rights, as affirmed by the entire nation and proclaimed by the Government, are the withdrawal of the British forces and the realization of the unity of Egypt and the Sudan according to the will of the inhabitants of the Nile Valley . . ."

**ETHIOPIA.** *Sept. 5.*—Signature of agreement regarding the railway to Jibuti. (*see France.*)

**FINLAND.** *Sept. 13.*—The Provincial Diet of the Aaland Islands unanimously decided to propose to the Finnish Government that they should be given the opportunity to separate from Finland and to establish closer links with Sweden. Statement by Swedish Foreign Office. (*see Sweden.*)

**FRANCE.** *Sept. 5.*—An agreement was signed with the Ethiopian Government restoring to France her rights, as set forth in the Concession of 1908, over the railway from Jibuti to Addis Ababa.

*Sept. 10.*—The text of the memorandum adopted by the joint committee representing the C.G.T., the Radical-Socialist, Socialist, and Communist Parties, and the League of the Rights of Man, was presented to Gen. de Gaulle and published, summarizing its observations on the electoral system. It laid down as criteria for proportional representation that "all voters should be equal at the polls, i.e. that for a given number of voters there should everywhere be the same number of representatives", and that "the remainders of the various lists should be attributed to the parties and movements in accordance with the number of votes they have won in the country". Under the Government's system, however, "Frenchmen would no longer be equal before the electoral law", and the committee was convinced that the "complicated" voting system corresponded "neither to the country's wishes nor to those of Gen. de Gaulle himself".

*Sept. 17.*—The Government were understood to have made representations in Chungking against the action of Chinese military leaders in Yunnan who had prevented French representatives from entering Hanoi.

Paquis was sentenced to death in Paris for intelligence with the enemy. (He broadcast for the Germans.)

*Sept. 19.*—The Chinese Prime Minister arrived in Paris and discussed the situation in Indo-China with Gen. de Gaulle. The Regent of Greece also arrived and was entertained by the General.

Gen. de Gaulle received the Chinese Premier, who assured him that his Government's policy was that French rights in Indo-China would continue to be respected.

*Sept. 22.*—Gen. de Gaulle, in a broadcast, said it would take a generation to rebuild France. Production was only 50 per cent of the pre-war level, and the official ration was of 1,400 calories, as compared with pre-war 3,000 calories. France must be guaranteed her rights after this 30 years' war. The Rhine should be the eastern frontier, and the Ruhr should be internationalized.

*Sept. 23.*—Memorandum *re* Germany submitted to the Foreign Ministers conference. (see *The Council of Foreign Ministers.*)

GERMANY. *Sept. 10.*—The Allied Control Council decided that (1) inland transport and coastwise shipping should be restored only to the minimum necessary to satisfy the occupation demands and a German peace economy, (2) all unnecessary restrictions on normal inter-zone trading in commodities and services should be relaxed, (3) they should request the recall of all German officials and "obnoxious" German nationals from the neutral countries of Afghanistan, Eire, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Tangier, and the Vatican City.

*Sept. 13.*—It was learnt that representatives of the occupying Powers were meeting at Frankfort-on-Main in an attempt to solve the problem of 9 million German refugees who had been expelled from their homes in Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the former eastern provinces of Germany.

Church deputation to British Prime Minister on plight of German refugees. (see *Great Britain.*)

*Sept. 14.*—F.-M. Montgomery issued an ordinance granting the Germans the right to form political parties, "to foster the growth of a democratic spirit in Germany, and to prepare for the holding of free elections at a later date". The ordinance annulled all provisions of German law enacted during Hitler's régime which prohibited or hindered the formation of parties which were lawful before Jan. 30, 1933.

*Sept. 16.*—The British First Lord of the Admiralty arrived at Hamburg.

*Sept. 20.*—The Allied Control Council decided on the abolition of the ban on fraternization as from Oct. 1.

The Kommandantura met to deal with lawlessness in the British sector of Berlin, and the Soviet commandant promised full co-operation in action to put a stop to the abduction of Germans from the sector by Russians in uniform.

*Sept. 22.*—The British Military Government proclaimed that local and provincial councils, composed of selected Germans, were to be

established immediately, and that, once they were functioning satisfactorily, the Germans would be allowed to elect their own local councils.

**GREAT BRITAIN.** *Sept. 9.*—M. Bidault and Dr. Wang Shi-chieh arrived in London.

*Sept. 10.*—Mr. Byrnes and M. Molotov arrived in London.

Dr. Evatt issued a report on Japanese atrocities, based on the testimony of over 500 witnesses and on documentary evidence which had been prepared and presented to the United Nations War Crimes Commission by the Chief Justice of Queensland. In a statement accompanying the report Dr. Evatt said that the crimes had been committed as part of a system of terrorism, and the Australian Government held that "those at the top are at least equally guilty with the actual perpetrators on the spot". It was their confirmed policy "that there should be no immunity from trial for war crimes for any Japanese whatsoever". They had already received from the War Crimes Commission "recommendations for the apprehension and trial of suspected Japanese, which if carried out will ensure the punishment of all culpable. The process should be put into operation without delay".

*Sept. 12.*—Mr. Attlee addressed the Trade Union Congress, and, referring to foreign policy, said that a good understanding between Britain, the U.S.A., and the U.S.S.R. was the "keystone of the arch of world security". Grave problems existed not only in Europe. In the Middle East there was a "great area of possible disturbance", the Far East had to be reconstituted after Japanese aggression, and the independence of India had to be settled. The solution of these difficulties could not be effected by short cuts or hasty action. Moreover, real peace could not be established by the force of great Power, but there must be a change of heart. The principle upon which economic problems would be solved would be the interrelation of all peoples.

*Sept. 13.*—Mr. Attlee received a deputation of representatives of the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, the Free Churches, and the Church of Scotland, who protested against the deplorable conditions of the German refugees who had been expelled from Poland, the Sudetenland, and elsewhere.

*Sept. 16.*—The Italian Foreign Minister arrived in London.

*Sept. 17.*—The Regent of Greece told the press in London that the material needs of Greece were tremendous. 1,300 towns and villages lay in ruins, communications were non-existent or in a chaotic state, and livestock was almost annihilated. Replying to questions he said there were 16,000 political prisoners under detention, but the recent appointment of more magistrates would make it easier to speed up releases.

Of Bulgaria he said, "Four times in 40 years has Greece been invaded by Bulgaria. It is a matter of justice that something should be done to rectify the frontiers so that we can live in peace. . . ."

*Sept. 18.*—A translation of Gen. Franco's letter of Oct. 18, 1944 to Mr. Churchill and the latter's reply were published.

Mr. Churchill emphasized that as long as the existing barriers between the two countries remained development of more intimate means of friendship would meet with difficulties, and "it is out of the question for H.M. Government to support Spanish aspirations to participate in the future peace settlements. Neither do I think it likely that Spain will be invited to join the future world organization".

He also said: "I should let your Excellency fall into serious error if I did not remove from your mind the idea that H.M. Government would be ready to consider any block of Powers based on hostility to our Russian allies or on any assumed need of defence against them. H.M. Government's policy is firmly based on the Anglo-Soviet Treaty of 1942, and considers permanent Anglo-Russian collaboration within the frame of the future world organization as essential not only to her own interests but also to the future peace and prosperity of Europe as a whole."

M. Molotov told the London press that Russia strongly supported the Governments in Rumania, Bulgaria, and Hungary, and, in reply to questions, said there was a "grain of truth" in reports that Russia desired to be appointed trustee for Tripolitania. As to Eritrea and the Italian colonies in general, he said, "I shall not conceal from you that the Soviet Union has an interest in this and can, I think, be helpful in reaching a solution". On the whole he favoured individual rather than collective trusteeships, which had not yet been tried.

As to Venezia Giulia, he said Yugoslavia was entitled to expect that her views should be heard and respected, adding, "we shall strive to obtain a just decision regarding Istria and Trieste".

Sept. 19.—William Joyce was sentenced to death in London for "traitorously adhering to the King's enemies in Germany by broadcasting propaganda between Sept. 18, 1939 and July 2, 1940".

The Czechoslovak Minister of Health arrived in London.

The Foreign Office issued a statement about the Greek Elections, saying that the British, French, and U.S. Governments held the firm conviction that they should be held as soon as possible. Thus a Government would be formed based on the wishes of people and Parliament. This would facilitate the restoration of stable tranquillity, and only when this had been firmly established would it be possible to hold a free and genuine plebiscite to decide on the future régime.

Mr. Attlee, broadcasting on India, said the British Government was acting in accordance with the spirit and intention of the Cripps offer, despite its rejection by the Indian political leaders, and the first step necessary was "to get as soon as may be as democratic a representation of the Indian peoples as possible". Elections would be held in the cold weather and everything possible would be done to ensure a free and fair election. The Government had authorized the Viceroy to undertake preliminary discussions with representatives of the new Provincial Legislatures to ascertain whether the proposals of the Cripps offer were acceptable, or whether some other scheme would be preferable; also to take steps after the elections to bring into being an Executive Council having the support of the main parties, in order that India might deal



herself with her own social and economic problems, and take her full part in working out the new world order.

The Government were also giving immediate consideration to the contents of a treaty to be concluded between Britain and the constitution-making body of India, and in that treaty "we shall not seek to provide for anything incompatible with the interests of India". In conclusion, he appealed for a united effort by Indians to work out a Constitution which all the communities would accept as just and fair. The British Government would do their utmost to give every assistance in their power.

Sept. 20.—The Foreign Office, in a statement on the visit of the Regent of Greece said the Government had found that they were in agreement with him on all points. They were determined to afford to Greece all the assistance in their power. Britain was contributing to U.N.R.R.A. to the utmost of her resources. The restoration of communications was one of the most urgent needs, and by the end of September it was hoped that 2,500 lorries would have been delivered to Greece by the British military authorities on behalf of U.N.R.R.A. H.M. Government had already handed over a number of coasters and hoped to be able to make more available as the need developed.

The Foreign Office announced that the Foreign Secretary had been examining with the British diplomatic representatives in the Middle East countries the financial, economic, and social problems presented in that area by the imminent return to post-war conditions. Valuable recommendations had been made, which would now be considered by the Government. In view of the vital importance of Commonwealth communications they "were impressed with the desirability of strengthening the relations with the countries of the Middle East on the basis of mutual co-operation and the promotion of their social and economic well-being".

Sept. 21.—The Yugoslav Vice-Premier told the press that his Government intended to give Trieste the status of a separate federal State within the Yugoslav Federation. There would be no national discrimination, and the administration could therefore be expected to consist largely of Italians. Trieste would become a free port open to all countries outside Yugoslavia's Customs boundary.

They were prepared to accept the results of an examination of the existing ethnographic frontier, though the Italians had in the past consistently pushed Slav elements eastwards. The coming elections in Yugoslavia would show that they were prepared to accept the will of the people. Balloting would be secret.

GREECE. Sept. 15.—The police and a body of 20,000 gendarmes took over responsibility for law and order from the national guard and the army.

Sept. 17.—The Regent's statement in London. (*see Great Britain.*)

Sept. 19.—Statement by the British, French, and U.S. Governments regarding the elections. (*see Great Britain.*)

Statement regarding the Elections. (*see Great Britain.*)

*Sept. 20.*—M. Varvaressos resigned the governorship of the Bank of Greece because he did not wish to share the responsibility for the economic situation that had arisen after his dismissal from the Government "by the systematic and organized reaction of the country's economic oligarchy".

Issue of statement by British Foreign Office. (*see Great Britain.*)

**HONG-KONG.** *Sept. 16.*—The Japanese surrendered and handed over their swords, on the order of Admiral Harcourt, the chief British delegate.

**INDIA.** *Sept. 14.*—The Congress Party announced that it would contest the elections for the central and provincial legislatures.

Mr. J. J. Lawson, Secretary of State for War, arrived in Karachi.

*Sept. 16.*—The Viceroy arrived in Delhi.

*Sept. 19.*—The Viceroy, in a broadcast to the country, said it was "the intention of his Majesty's Government to convene as soon as possible a constitution-making body, and, as a preliminary step they have authorized me to undertake, immediately after the elections, discussions with representatives of the Legislative Assemblies in the Provinces to ascertain whether the proposals contained in the 1942 Declaration are acceptable, or whether some alternative or modified scheme is preferable. Discussions will also be undertaken with the representatives of Indian States with a view to ascertaining in what way they can best take their part in the constitution-making body. H.M. Government are proceeding to the consideration of the content of the treaty which will require to be concluded between Great Britain and India."

As the government had meanwhile to be carried on and many serious problems dealt with, H.M. Government had authorized him, as soon as the results of the Provincial Elections were published, to take steps to bring into being an Executive Council which would have the support of the main Indian parties. He then made an appeal for goodwill, co-operation, and patience on the part of all concerned. They must first hold elections so that the will of the electorate might be known. After that he proposed to hold discussions with representatives of those elected and of the Indian States to determine the form which the constitution-making body should take, its powers and procedure.

In conclusion he gave an assurance that the Government and all sections of the British people were anxious to help India, which had given so much help in winning the war.

*Sept. 20.*—The President of the Congress Party told the press that "Congress has a positive plan as regards the future Constitution of India. It wants a united India with a federal Government, the federating units having full autonomy and with residuary powers vested in them".

The President of the Moslem League stated that one thing was clear—"no attempt will succeed except on the basis of Pakistan. That is the major issue to be decided by those who are working in earnest to achieve real freedom and independence for India".



The report of the famine enquiry commission was published. It recorded that the population had increased by 100 million since 1880, and that a further similar increase in 25 years might be expected. Ultimately, the rate of growth would have to be decreased, and emigration to the more sparsely settled parts of the Commonwealth was recommended. But the main problem was that of the under-development of resources, agricultural and industrial. Suggestions were made for the production and provision of a more balanced diet for the masses.

*Sept. 21.*—The Congress Party Working Committee passed in Bombay a resolution "viewing with anxiety the attempts being made to maintain the political and economic subjection of Burma, Malaya, Indo-China, and Indonesia" as contrary to the San Francisco Charter, objecting to the use of Indian troops in maintaining such domination, and demanding the safeguarding of Indian labour and capital invested in Burma and Malaya.

*Sept. 22.*—The Congress Working Committee passed a resolution reiterating the objectives laid down in that of Aug. 8, 1942, and recording its conviction that the independence of India was essential for world peace. Nothing short of this could be acceptable to Congress and the country, and the proposals now made were "vague, inadequate, and unsatisfactory".

*Sept. 23.*—The Congress Committee passed an unqualified vote of confidence in the Working Committee. Jawaharlal Nehru declared, amidst loud cheering, that Congress would not again attempt negotiation with the Muslim League which, he said, had tried to humiliate Congress every time the latter had made an approach to it.

The Committee approved the Working Committee's resolution of *Sept. 21*, and also passed the resolution reaffirming the "quit-India" one of 1942.

The Government of India published a letter from the Secretary of State to the Council of Foreign Ministers drawing attention to India's vital interest in the future of the Italian colonies and in the welfare of their peoples.

**INDO-CHINA.** *Sept. 18.*—The Chinese general Lu-han arrived at Hanoi and issued a proclamation that his forces were there only to receive the Japanese surrender, and that China had no territorial ambitions in the area.

**ITALY.** *Sept. 9.*—Anti-Monarchist demonstrations were organized by the Republican parties in various parts of the country, on the anniversary of the King's flight from Rome after the armistice of 1943.

*Sept. 11.*—Allied H.Q. in Venezia Giulia reported that 2 petitions were being circulated in the area, one in Italian and the other in Slovene, demanding the Yugoslav annexation of Venezia Giulia. The population was being threatened and bribed to sign the petitions.

*Sept. 12.*—The Allied Military Government Commissioner in Gorizia issued a proclamation to the people saying that a provincial commission consisting only of Italians had been appointed because the

large Slovene element of the population had refused to take part, contending that they were the only rightful representatives of the people since their election during Marshal Tito's occupation of the province.

*Sept. 13.*—It was learnt that Ansaldo and Vidussoni, former Secretary-General of the Fascist Party, had been arrested.

The Prime Minister, in a statement for the *Giornale del Mattino*, attacked "fantastic Yugoslav propaganda" about Trieste, and also strongly criticized the Morgan Line (made in May after the Alexander-Tito agreement), saying that "a purely military division does not take into consideration either the ethnical situation or economic needs".

*Sept. 17.*—The Allied Area Commander of Gorizia told the council of administration set up by the Allied Military Government that widespread thuggery existed in the province. Bitterness, hatred, and cruelty still persisted, and over 1,000 people, taken from their homes in the night, were still in captivity, untried and with no charge made against them.

JAPAN. *Sept. 10.*—Gen. MacArthur ordered the dissolution of the Japanese Imperial H.Q. by *Sept. 13*. He also imposed a press and wireless censorship throughout the country.

*Sept. 11.*—Gen. Tojo was arrested after an attempt at suicide. Gen. MacArthur ordered also the arrest of 39 others, including Shigemori Togo; Adm. Shimada; Adm. Terashima; Gen. Homma; José Laurel and Jorge Vargas (puppet President of the Philippines and puppet Philippine Ambassador to Japan); Pratap Mehendra (president of the "Aryan Army"); Dr. Maung (puppet Burmese Ambassador to Japan); Benigno Aquino (president of the puppet Philippine National Assembly); Col. Meisinger (police attaché at the German Embassy); Wathakan Wichit (Siamese Ambassador to Japan); Gen. Kuroda; Murato (Japanese Ambassador in the Philippines during the occupation); Col. Tagahame (Commander of the gendarmerie in the Philippines, accused of atrocities in Manila); and 8 others accused of atrocities.

Prince Konoye told the press in Tokyo that both the China "incident" and the war with the Allies could have been averted, and that the militarists were principally guilty for both. The Government had for long been a "two-headed dragon, with a regular Government proposing to do one thing and another separate head, the military, ordering another". Speaking of the *Kempei* (the military secret police), he said that he himself had been in continual danger from them. He declared that the one objective of the Imperial Government was to eliminate the Army from the country's political and social life, but that the Army was still so powerful that its dominating influence could be removed only with the aid of American forces.

*Sept. 12.*—Gen. MacArthur ordered the dissolution of the Black Dragon River Society and the arrest of 7 of its leaders.

F.-M. Sugiyama, former chief of the General Staff and ex-war Minister, committed suicide. Heinrich Stahmer, German Ambassador to Japan, was arrested.

*Sept. 13.*—The Imperial H.Q. was formally abolished.

*Sept. 14.*—The Premier, replying to a letter from the Associated Press agency, wrote: "America has won, and Japan has lost. The war is ended. Let us bury hate. This has been my policy since the organization of the present Cabinet. People of America, won't you forget Pearl Harbour? We Japanese people will forget the picture of devastation wrought by the atomic bomb, and will start entirely anew as a peace-loving nation." He added that the people would now for the first time enjoy "freedom from oppression by a militarist clique" as freedom of speech and of the press were gradually extended.

Gen. MacArthur told the press that the surrender terms were not soft, and "they will not be applied in kid-glove fashion". Military considerations must necessarily govern the first phase of the occupation, and "safety and security require that all of the steps shall proceed with precision and completeness lest calamity be precipitated. The military phase is proceeding in an entirely satisfactory way".

Well over half the enemy's forces in Japan proper had already been demobilized. Economically and industrially, as well as militarily, Japan was completely exhausted and depleted, and was "in a condition of collapse". Her governmental structure was controlled completely by the occupation forces.

Supreme H.Q. ordered the suspension of all the activities of the Domei agency. It also ordered the publication in full of the facts of the Japanese atrocities.

The suicide was reported of Gen. Koizumi, Minister of Welfare in 1941-42, and Gens. Yoshimoto and Yushiroko. The Minister of Education in the Tojo Cabinet was reported to have taken poison.

*Sept. 15.*—The former Foreign Minister Togo surrendered to the U.S. 8th Army, and the Government handed over 7 of the men wanted by the Allies, including the commander of a notorious prison camp.

Gen. MacArthur imposed a severe censorship on the press, in punishment for bad faith shown in dealing with the facts of surrender. Col. Hoover, in charge of censorship, summoned press representatives and told them they must understand that the Allied Powers "do not regard Japan as an equal in any way". Japan had not yet demonstrated a right to a place among civilized nations. "The tone of the coloured news you have been presenting to the public", he said, "gives the impression that the Supreme Commander has been negotiating with the Japanese Government. There are no negotiations, and the public should not be permitted to gain a false idea of the position of the Government in relation to the Allied Powers".

A directive issued by the Supreme Allied Commander, S.E. Asia, told the troops that their behaviour towards the Japanese must be "strictly correct and coldly polite".

*Sept. 16.*—The Tokyo papers published detailed accounts of the mistreatment of Allied prisoners of war.

*Sept. 17.*—Gen. MacArthur announced that it would probably be possible to reduce the occupation forces to not more than 200,000 troops in 6 months. Regular Army troops would probably be able to maintain this unaided, and that would "permit complete demobilization of our

citizen (conscripted) Pacific forces". At first it had been a question whether a military government would have to be established, but by working with the Japanese Government the purposes of surrender could be accomplished with only a small fraction of the men and time originally projected.

The Japanese handed over Admiral Terashima, former Minister of Communications, a former Minister of Commerce and Industry named Kishi, and two Army officers accused of atrocities. The *Asahi* reported the suicide of Gen. Shinotsuka. The resignation was reported of the Foreign Minister, Shigemitsu, and his replacement by the former Ambassador to London, Yoshida.

*Sept. 18.*—Tokyo papers accused Tojo and his fellow war leaders of responsibility for the barbarism of the soldiery and of inefficiency in government. One paper complained that the new Government had shown no positive support for the formation of new democratic political parties.

*Sept. 21.*—Gen. MacArthur, in a statement, said "Japan is not getting a soft peace. On the contrary, it is going to be a very hard one. The Army will be completely demobilized by Oct. 15 and absolutely abolished". The occupation would last a long time; it would take many years to fulfil the terms of surrender. Untold saving in life, time, and money had resulted from retaining the Emperor. War criminals trials would start very soon. All munitions and munitions plant would be abolished, and "Japan will never again become a world Power".

Gen. MacArthur ordered the arrest of Gen. Doihara, who was appointed, with Allied approval, Commander of the Japanese First General Army after the suicide of Gen. Sugiyama.

*Sept. 22.*—Gen. MacArthur ordered the Government to furnish complete information of its finances and financial regulations of the Treasury, banks, insurance companies, etc., and of the Imperial Household.

The Government handed over Takahara, former police chief of Manila.

KOREA. *Sept. 18.*—President Truman's statement. (*see U.S.A.*)

*Sept. 22.*—The Soviet authorities were reported to be restoring self-government in the zones occupied, and to have authorized the use again of the Korean language.

MALAYA. *Sept. 7.*—American prisoners and internees were evacuated from Singapore.

*Sept. 9.*—The first British prisoners and internees were evacuated from Singapore.

*Sept. 12.*—Adm. Mountbatten received, in Singapore, the surrender of the Japanese forces in South-East Asia. Gen. Itagaki signed the surrender for F.-M. Terauchi.

In his order of the day Adm. Mountbatten said that those under his command would have his support "in taking the firmest measures against any Japanese obstinacy, impudence, or non co-operation".

Sept. 13.—Gen. Ishiguro formally surrendered all his forces in Malaya to Gen. Roberts.

NEW GUINEA. Sept. 13.—Gen. Adachi, C.-in-C. of the Japanese 18th Army, surrendered to Gen. Robertson, C.-in-C. of the 6th Australian Division.

NORWAY. Sept. 10.—Quisling was sentenced to death for high treason by a unanimous decision of the Court, and his property was confiscated.

PERSIA. Sept. 13.—The Foreign Minister sent Notes to the British, American, and Russian Embassies in Teheran asking for the evacuation of Allied troops from Persia. The Note to the Soviet Embassy said:—"By March 2, 1946, not a single man belonging to Allied air, naval, or land forces should be in Iranian territory or waters". A second Note to the Soviet Embassy protested again at the Russian action in stopping Persian *gendarmes* from restoring order in northern Persia.

Sept. 19.—Five leaders of the Tudeh party were arrested and their premises closed for contravention of martial law. Demonstrations occurred outside the building and the military governor of Teheran ordered strict compliance with martial law conditions.

Sept. 21.—Soviet troops withdrew from Teheran and the Russian censorship in the city was removed.

POLAND. Sept. 15.—Warsaw radio announced that the Government had denounced the Concordat with the Holy See.

RUMANIA. Sept. 19.—Bucarest radio announced that the Russians had reduced the value of goods due to be handed over as reparations by nearly one-third, and had also agreed to send 38,000 wagons of food as a loan, to be repaid in kind in 4 years. Russia also agreed to repair all railway rolling stock essential to the restoration of normal traffic, to return 28 warships and 25 cargo ships, and to repatriate at once all war prisoners in Russia. Rumania was given the right to establish a corps of *gendarmes* and frontier guards.

SIAM. Sept. 8.—Report regarding secret aid to the Allies. (see U.S.A.)

SPAIN. Sept. 13.—The abolition of the Falangist salute as a form of greeting was announced.

Sept. 15.—A trade agreement was signed with France for the exchange of large quantities of goods.

Sept. 18.—Publication of letters between Gen. Franco and Mr. Churchill. (see *Great Britain*.)

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement giving details of the Note transmitted to the British and French Governments on Sept. 4, which gave "powerful reasons" why Tangier had been occupied, one of which was that "there existed well-founded reasons for

fearing an imminent act of hostility against it from the Axis Powers". As to the law of Nov. 23, 1940 annexing Tangier, this was aimed at guaranteeing the indispensable juridical administration of the Zone and that of the Spanish Protectorate.

The Government were prepared to take into consideration the re-establishment of the Statute, including any modification which might be found necessary. No agreement concerning Tangier had ever before been negotiated without Spain's presence or collaboration.

SWEDEN. *Sept. 13.*—Status of Aaland Islands. (*see Finland.*)

The Foreign Office issued a statement that it had no information of any intention to modify Finnish sovereignty over the Aaland Islands.

TANGIER. *Sept. 18.*—Statement by the Spanish Foreign Ministry. (*see Spain.*)

TURKEY. *Sept. 15.*—The Regent of Iraq arrived in Istanbul on board H.M.S. *Ajax*.

*Sept. 17.*—The Iraqi Regent arrived in Ankara on a State visit, accompanied by the Prime Minister.

U.S.A. *Sept. 8.*—A report was issued by the Office of Strategic Services revealing, that while outwardly at war with the Allies, the Siamese Government had been in constant communication with the U.S. and British Governments and with the Allied Military Command in the India-Burma theatre.

*Sept. 9.*—Lord Halifax arrived back in Washington.

*Sept. 12.*—Lord Halifax, head of the British trade and financial mission in Washington, told the press that the issues of the forthcoming Anglo-American discussions were "far wider than those merely affecting the 2 countries directly concerned". The main issue was whether the co-operation of the U.S. and the British Commonwealth could be made "as great a world saviour in peace as it was in war". Lord Keynes, the joint chief of the British mission, said that the cancellation of lend-lease had left Britain with 2 alternatives, (1) that she should carry on as best as she could with the resources she still commanded and with as little outside aid as possible. This would involve retaining various defensive trade mechanisms which had been developed by war controls, matching purchases made from any other country with purchases that country made from her, and curtailing her overall import programme as much as possible; (2) to work out with the U.S.A. some means of returning as soon as possible to normal trade and increased freedom and liberality in commercial and tariff policies in the belief that the resulting general expansion of world trade would ultimately lead to the U.S.A. and other countries being better off than under the first plan.

*Sept. 13.*—The Anglo-American trade and financial discussions began in Washington.

*Sept. 14.*—The President sent to Congress a recommendation for a cut in Navy appropriations by \$17,000 million.



Sept. 15.—A summary was published of the reports of a number of Government agencies on the food situation in Europe. It stated that the prospect for the winter was "one of appalling hunger for millions and starvation for many", unless 10 or 12 million tons of food were imported. U.N.R.R.A. had no funds for additional food buying, and had asked Congress to appropriate \$550 million already authorized, but these funds could only be used in "non-paying" Eastern European countries. There was also to be laid before Congress a request for \$1,300 million more.

Sept. 17.—President Truman in a statement on the sending of food to Europe said the chief problem was financial; there was no lack of shipping. The Government intended to meet the main requests of Europe except for fats, sugar, and oils, before the end of 1945. He wished to make it clear that relaxation of rationing in the United States was not a factor in the allocation of relief supplies to Europe.

Sept. 18.—President Truman issued a statement on Korea in which he said its subjection had now ended, and "the building of a great nation has begun with the assistance of the United States, China, Great Britain, and Russia, who are agreed that Korea shall become free and independent". The assumption by the Koreans of the responsibilities of free government and the elimination of all vestiges of Japanese control, he added, would require time and patience.

The President told the press that Mr. Stimson had resigned, and his resignation had been accepted with reluctance. Mr. Robert Patterson had accordingly been appointed Secretary of War.

Russian request for a loan. (*see U.S.S.R.*)

Sept. 19.—The Acting Secretary of State told the press that the forces in Japan were the instrument of policy, and not its determining factor. In brief, U.S. policy was to change Japan's will to war.

The President issued a statement pointing out that the impression that the speed of demobilization would be governed by the future needs of the occupation forces was not true: "No one can accurately forecast what those needs are going to be".

Sept. 20.—The Army Chief of Staff, in a personal statement in Congress on demobilization, announced that the number of points needed for discharge, i.e. 85, would be reduced to 70 on Oct. 1 and to 60 on Nov. 1. The Army expected to release 450,000 in September, 550,000 in October, and thereafter 700,000 to 800,000 a month. Gen. MacArthur had told the War Department the previous day that he hoped to occupy Japan and Korea with only 200,000 troops and a division of Marines at the end of 6 months, but Gen. Eisenhower still estimated that he would need 400,000 men at the end of June.

It was learnt that a four-point directive had been sent to Gen. MacArthur calling for: elimination of Japanese heavy industries; rigid control of the Bank of Japan; abolition of legislation limiting freedom of speech and assembly and the rights of labour to organize; and removal of high officials and industrialists.

Sept. 21.—Gen. MacArthur's statement. (*see Japan.*)

Sept. 22.—Lord Halifax, in a "fireside" broadcast, said that Britain's

economic situation was serious, but not desperate, "because 'desperate' suggests despair, and no one in Britain 'feels that'". They were short of everything—manpower, and all things that made life a bit easier and more comfortable. They put everything into the war, spending some \$6,000 million in that way. Then lend-lease came along, and they no longer had to pay cash for weapons, so they let their export trade go the way of their foreign investments. They could now only import as long as they could pay, and they could only pay by means of exports or services like shipping. He suggested their trying to work out something together that would make for a freer and expanding world trade, so that everybody would be better off.

The President published his VJ-Day instructions to Gen. MacArthur reading, "your general policy is to use the existing Government of Japan, not to support it. Changes in form of Government initiated by the Japanese people or Government in the direction of modifying its feudal and authoritarian tendencies are to be permitted and favoured". The economic basis of Japan's military strength must be destroyed and not permitted to revive. Imperial Household property was not to be exempted from any action necessary to carry out the objectives of the occupation.

These were: to ensure that Japan would not again menace the United States or the peace and security of the world, and to bring about the establishment of a peaceful and responsible Government, respecting the rights of other States and supporting the ideals and principles of the United Nations.

The *New York Times* published, without authorization, part of a confidential document outlining the British case about the war effort stated to have been submitted by Lord Keynes to the conference in Washington. According to this he was reported to have shown that, resources considered, Britain contributed substantially more than the U.S.A. to the defeat of the Axis; that, in terms of wear and tear on her capital equipment Britain's contribution was very much greater than that of America, and that, while quantitatively U.S. lend-lease was substantially greater than the mutual aid provided by Britain, in terms of the respective gross national products of the countries the U.S. contribution was "negligible" in its effect on America's economy, while the aid provided by Britain had a "considerable" effect on her economy.

U.S.S.R. *Sept. 12.*—The State Commission report on the total damage inflicted by the invading armies was published. An area inhabited by 88 million people had been overrun, 1,700 towns and 7,000 villages had been damaged, and 25 million people rendered homeless. The total direct loss was estimated at the equivalent of £32 thousand million. 86 per cent of the loss had been suffered by the 3 Russian Republics of the Union.

*Sept. 15.*—*Red Star*, in an article commenting on Gen. de Gaulle's statement to the British press on co-operation of the West European Powers, stated that certain circles in France and Britain seemed to wish to revive the policy of the *cordon sanitaire*.

Sept. 17.—Moscow radio broadcast an article in *Pravda* criticizing proposals for a "Western bloc", declaring that "the peace-loving nations pin their hopes of a worthy consolidation of victory on the work of the Council of Foreign Ministers".

Sept. 18.—Marshal Stalin was reported to have told the U.S. Congressional delegation that Russia would like to borrow \$6,000 million from America to finance internal reconstruction.

M. Molotov's statement to the press. (see *Great Britain*.)

Sept. 23.—*Pravda*, in an article which was broadcast, said no one denied that difficulties had arisen in the Foreign Ministers' conference, but they were not insurmountable. As to the Mediterranean it said, "No geographical manual or book states that the Mediterranean is a British sea or that Italian colonies are British territories".

An official broadcaster in Moscow, referring to the régimes in south-east Europe, said "Now that the war is over the country which is most persistently fighting for the eradication of all remnants of Fascism should be considered the most democratic. Even American democracy tolerates Fascist propaganda in a section of its press. To insist that where there is only one party there is no democracy is utter rot. Supposing there is no opposition, what then? Must one be set up in the name of democracy?" There was no opposition in the Soviet Union, he said, because there were no landlords and capitalists.

YUGOSLAVIA. Sept. 11.—Petitions for annexation of Venezia Giulia. (see *Italy*.)

Sept. 14.—According to reports from Italy large numbers of Yugoslavs were taking refuge there owing to their dislike of the Tito régime, and many complaints were current of persecution of the Churches. Many bishops and clergy were reported to have been interned.

Sept. 16.—The Vice-Premier left for London.

Sept. 17.—The Government issued a memorandum claiming the whole of Venezia Giulia (the Julian March) on the ground that it was "geographically, economically, and by the will of its population" a constituent part of Yugoslavia. For 13 centuries it had been inhabited mainly by Croats and Slovenes, and the Italian minority lived exclusively in a number of towns where it represented isolated islands on Yugoslav soil. The needs of the other hinterland countries could be met by the establishment of free Customs zones in Trieste, but the port must be under Yugoslav sovereignty. Internationalization was no solution. The industry of the city could in that case never be governed by the same economic policy as that of Yugoslavia, with which it was inextricably linked, and other reasons were also adduced against internationalization.

Sept. 21.—The Vice-Premier's statement regarding Trieste. (see *Great Britain*.)

Sept. 22.—A Military Court sentenced 14 generals and 3 other persons to death for treason, collaboration with the enemy, and atrocities against patriots.

## THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

*Sept. 11.*—Mr. Bevin opened in London the first meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The members were Mr. Bevin, M. Molotov, Mr. Byrnes, Mr. Wang Shi-chieh, and M. Bidault.

*Sept. 14.*—The Council of Foreign Ministers began the discussion of terms for peace with Italy, and agreed that all United Nations at war with Italy would be invited to submit their views in writing.

The Council approved recommendations for the setting up of a joint Secretariat, consisting of the secretaries of the five delegations, and providing for the procedure it would follow.

Dr. Evatt issued a statement regarding the association of Australia with the Council's work. He said his Government believed it was essential that they adopt a fair and democratic method of arriving at covenants of peace, and Australia had therefore consistently urged that those countries, other than the 5 represented, which had been active and principal belligerents in the war had a just claim to be closely associated with the work of the Council. These countries obviously included Canada, New Zealand, and South Africa, as well as Australia. The principles just stated had received the endorsement and active support of the British Government, and "we are now hopeful", he said, "that the principles will be recognized by the Council and a satisfactory procedure will be adopted".

*Sept. 15.*—The Council of Foreign Ministers agreed to add Poland, White Russia, and Ukraine to the countries invited to submit their views on the Italian peace settlement. It decided to refer the question of the Italian colonies to the deputies for study, making the fullest possible use of the plan proposed by the U.S. delegation.

*Sept. 19.*—The Council dealt with the terms of the peace treaty with Italy, and "agreed that the deputies should consider and report on the problem of the frontier with Yugoslavia with the following terms of reference: (a) To report on the line which will in the main be the ethnic line leaving a minimum under alien rule, on the understanding that appropriate investigations will be carried out on the spot before the final delimitation of the frontier. (b) To report on an international régime which will assure that the port and transport facilities of Trieste will be available for use on equal terms by all international trade, and by Yugoslavia, Italy, and the States of Central Europe, as is customary in other free ports of the world".

*Sept. 22.*—The Council received a memorandum on Germany from the French Government making reservations regarding the Potsdam Declaration. France was opposed to any attempt to split up the main part of Germany by force, but it had yet to be seen whether there were not strong and voluntary separatist movements away from Prussia. Had this possibility been examined?

As to the Rhineland and Ruhr, it was essential that France should safeguard along the Rhine the access to her territory, and that the river and the Ruhr basin should no longer be a source of permanent anxiety, and proposals were made with regard to this.